ERIC CHASALOW

To the Edge and Back

for flute and piano (1997)

Commissioned by the Pappoutsakis Flute Competition

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Accidentals do not carry through the bar. They refer only to the note they precede, except in cases of immediate repetition, where, for example C#,C,C would mean C#,C#,C# (even with intervening rests). Many cautionary accidentals have been added (in parentheses) for clarity.

Program Note

My instrumental music is always challenging to perform. Nevertheless, I constantly seek to write music where the challenges are justified by the musical result; I want performers to find the experience rewarding and. in the end, fun. It is, perhaps, easiest for me to gauge how well I have succeeded in this goal with music for my own instrument, the flute. I have always written flute music with the idea that I will have to perform it myself. Not including many pieces of juvenilia, my pieces for flute now include, Antichambers and Falling Forward (1979-80), two short solo pieces that incorporate extended techniques; Returning to the Point (1982), a flute quartet (flute, vln, vla,vc); and Over the Edge (1986) for flute and tape (which is published by McGinnis & Marx and has been recorded by Patricia Spenser).

When the directors of the Pappoutsakis Flute Competition (in memory of eminent flutist James Pappoutsakis) asked me to write a piece for the finals of the 1997-98 competition, I was very pleased. The result, To the Edge and Back, draws very deliberately, but without quotation, from the literature that we flutists all study and love to play. The opening has an unmistakable reference to Bach. My other conscious influence was jazz. The first few bars sound as much like a be-bop tune as anything, before blending into a brief baroque-like passage, at first in a minor.

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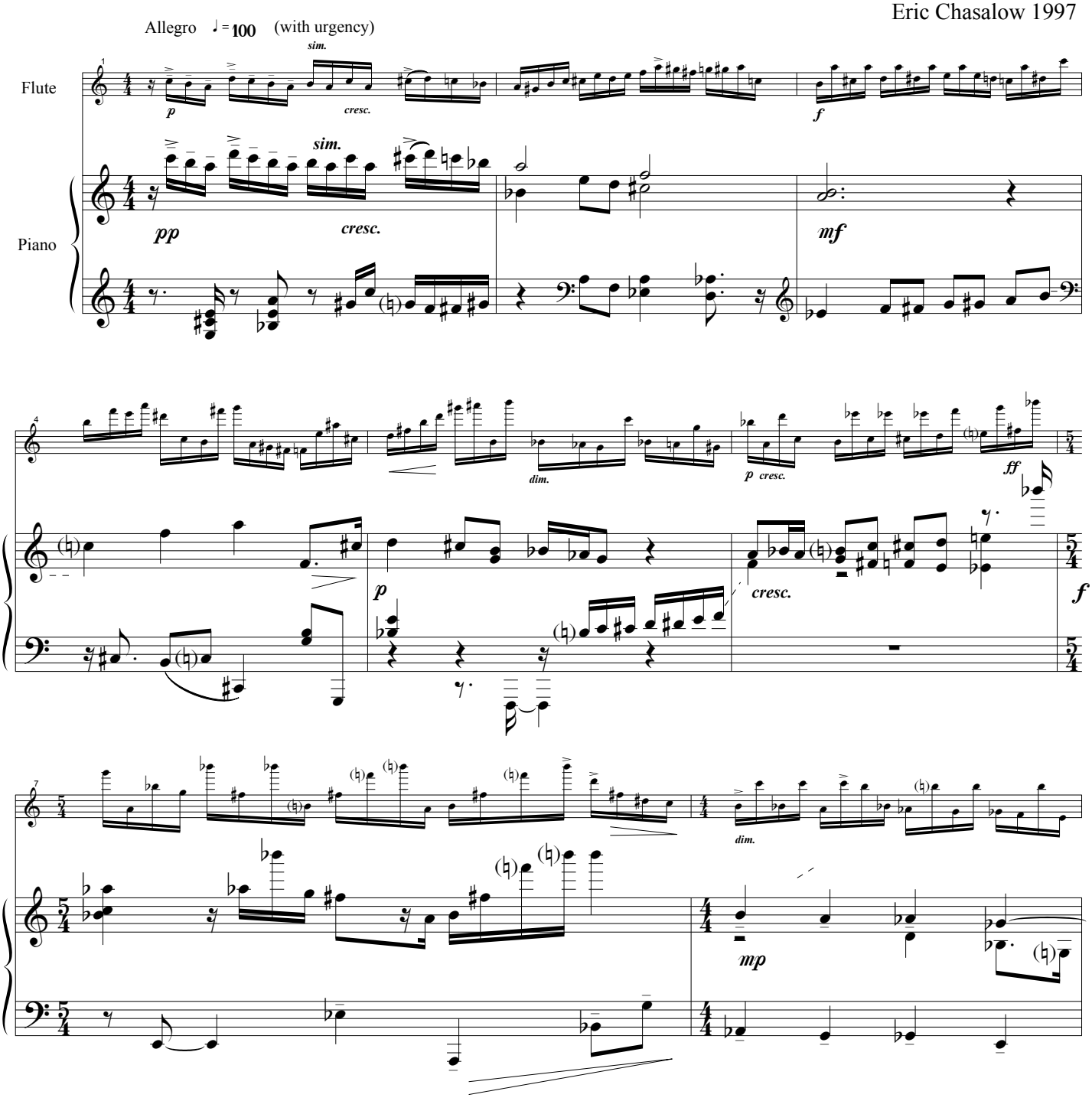
Eric Chasalow 1997



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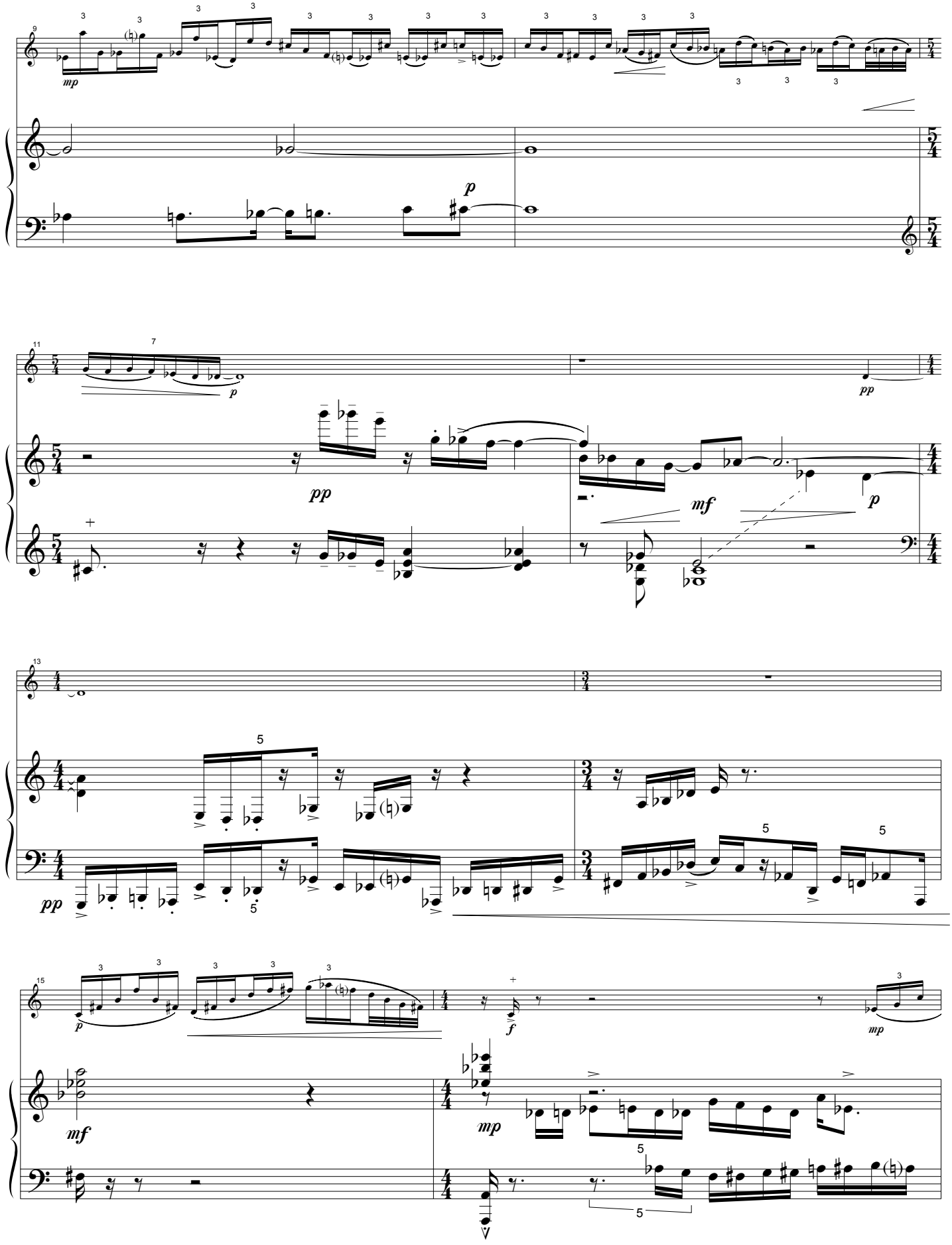
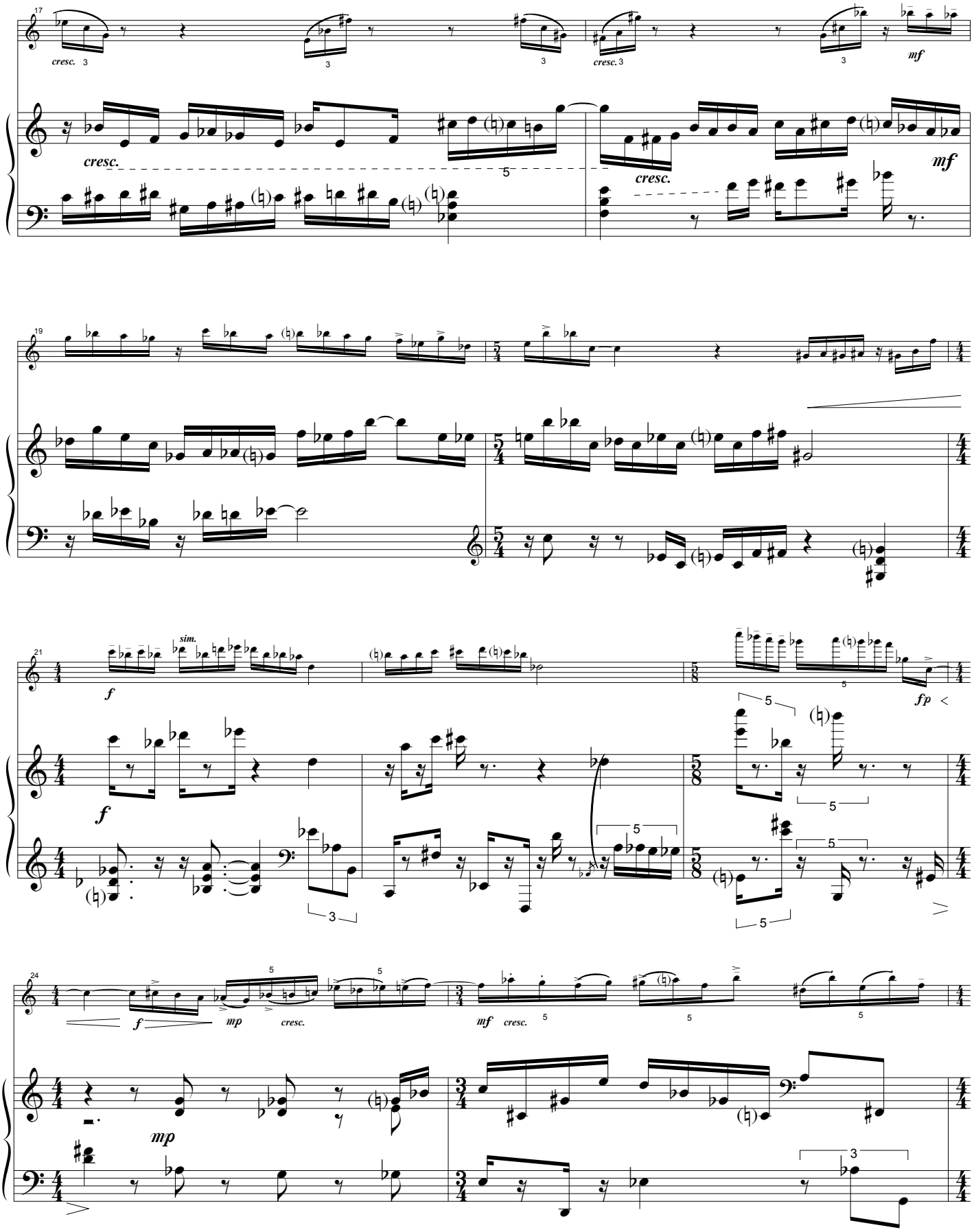
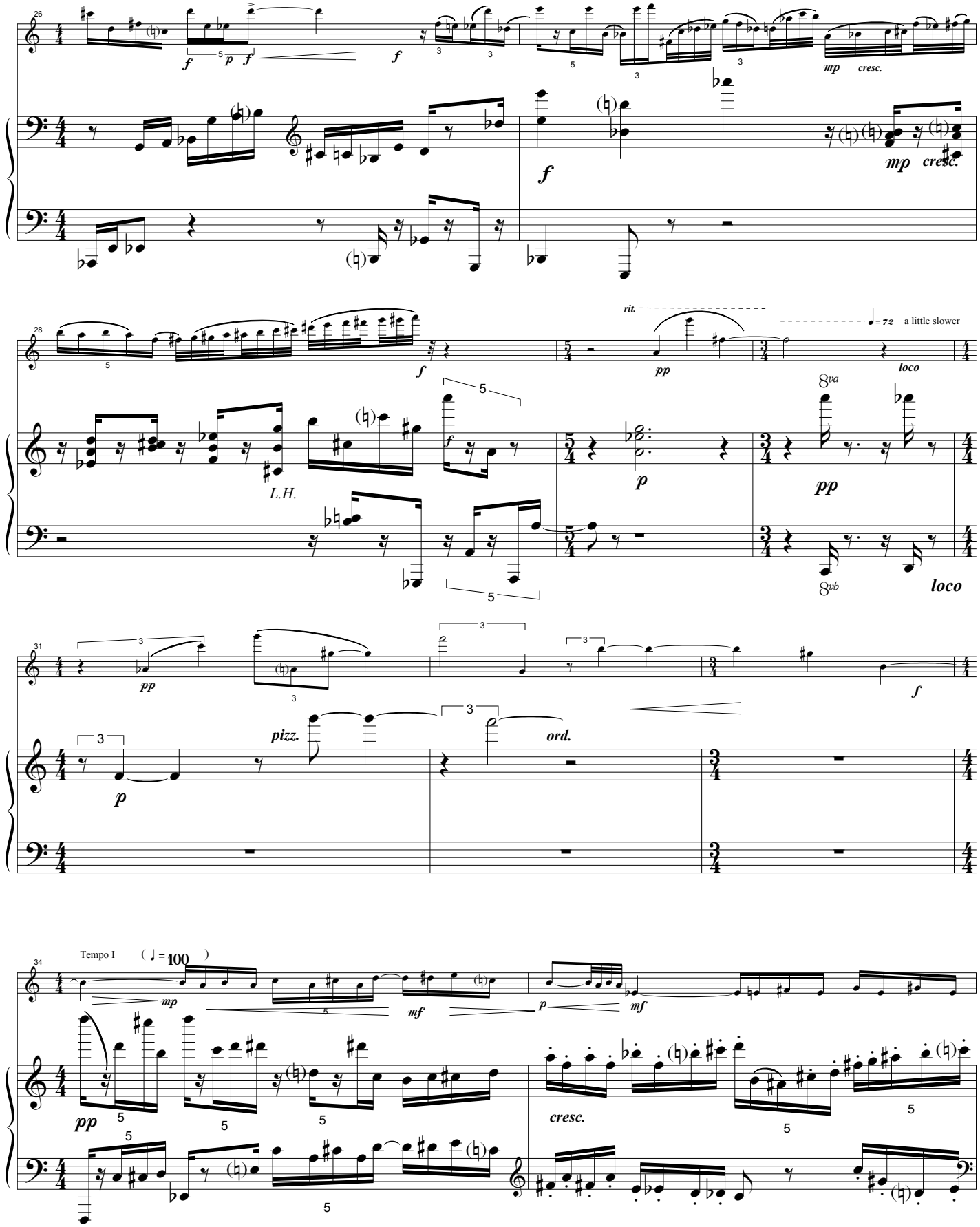
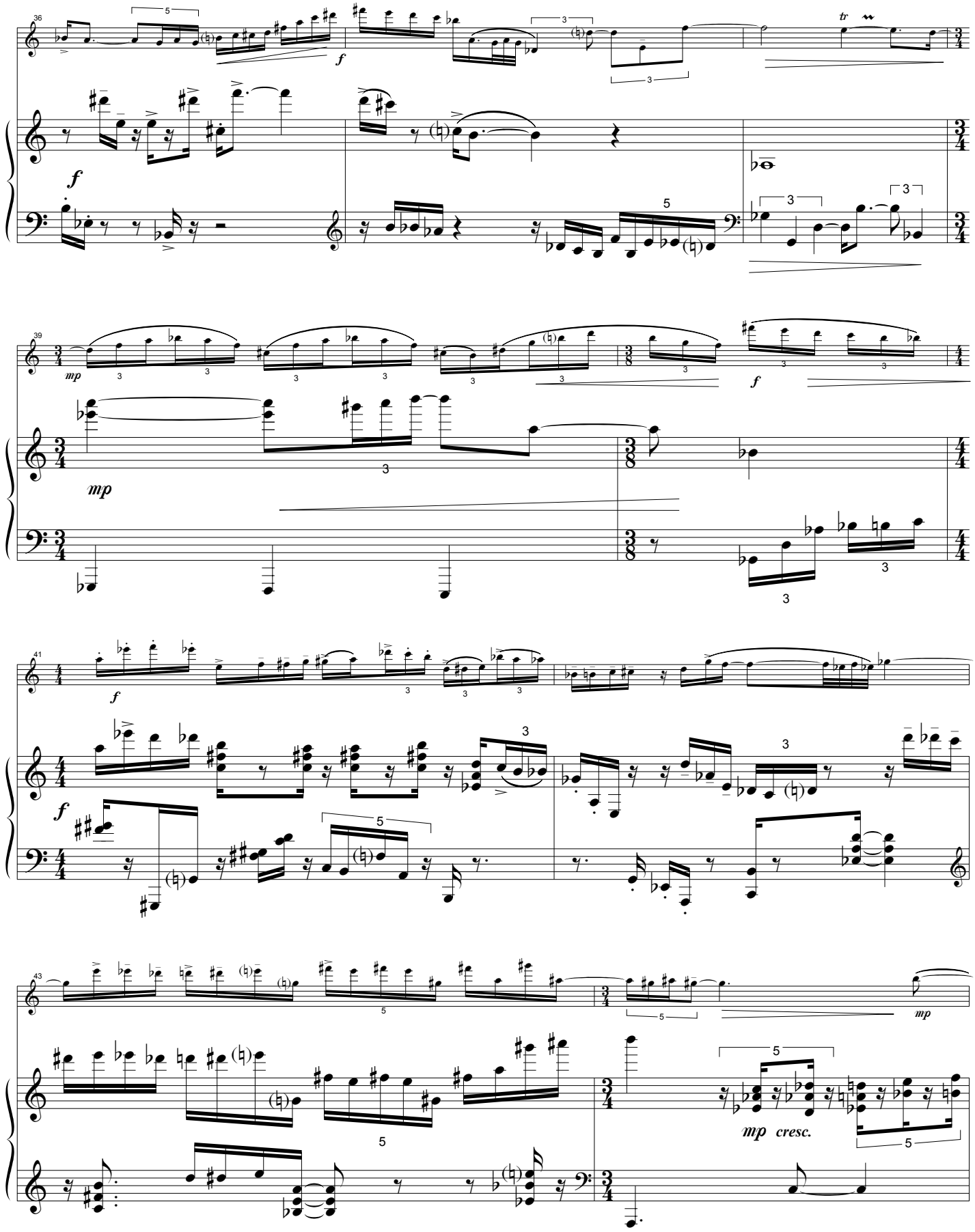
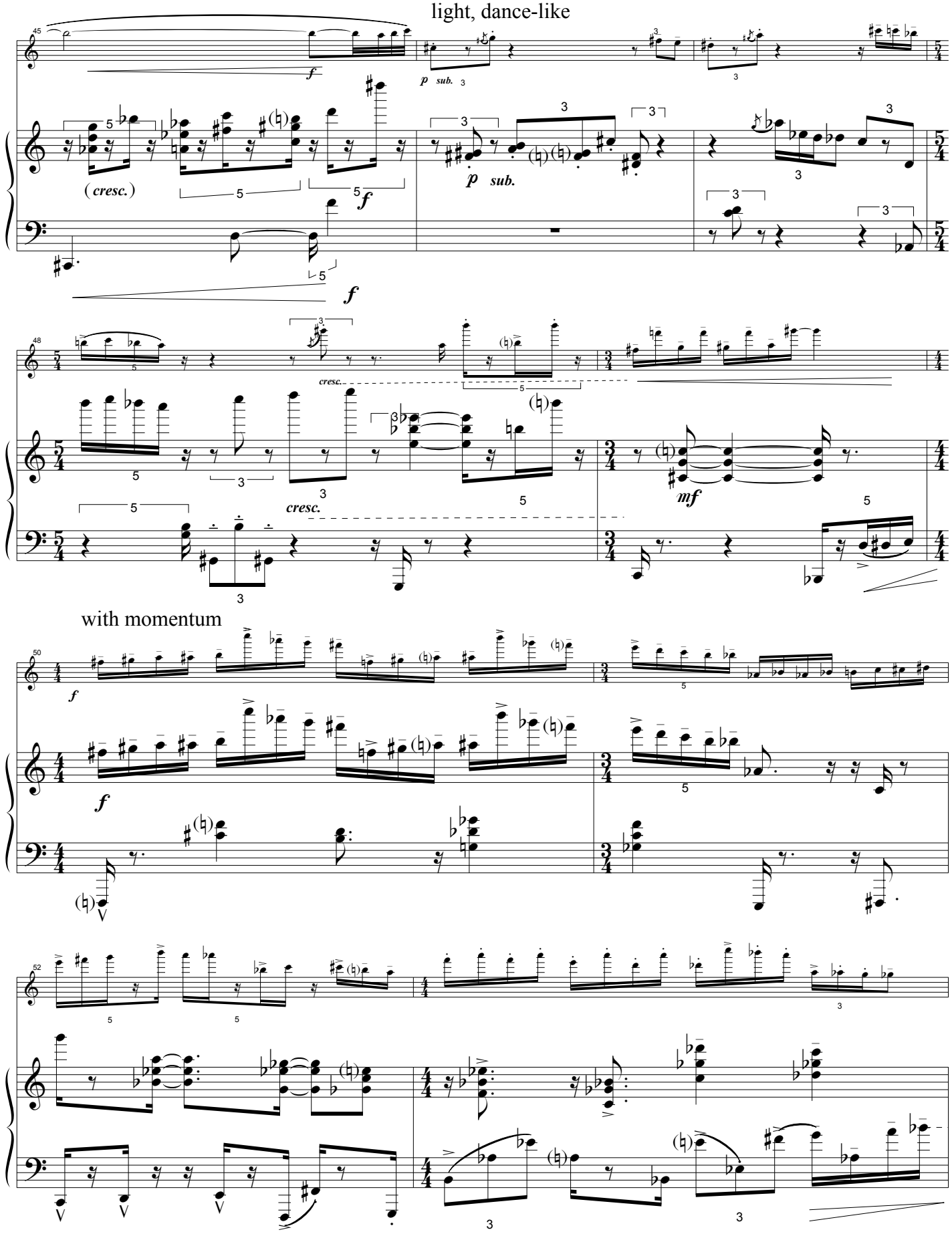
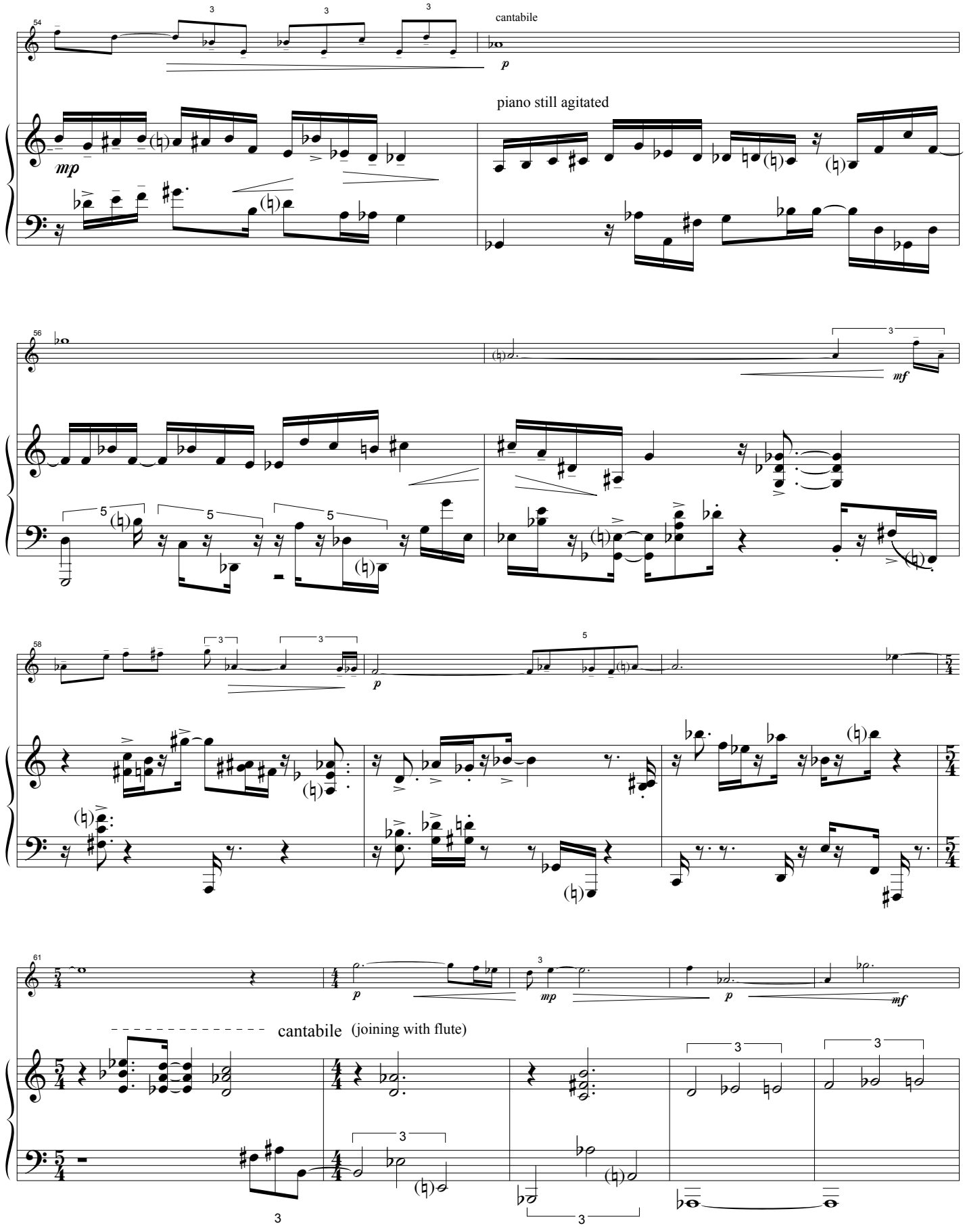

9
mp
p
11
7
p
pp
pp
mf
p
13
5
pp
5
5
5
15
p
f
mp
mf
mp
5
5

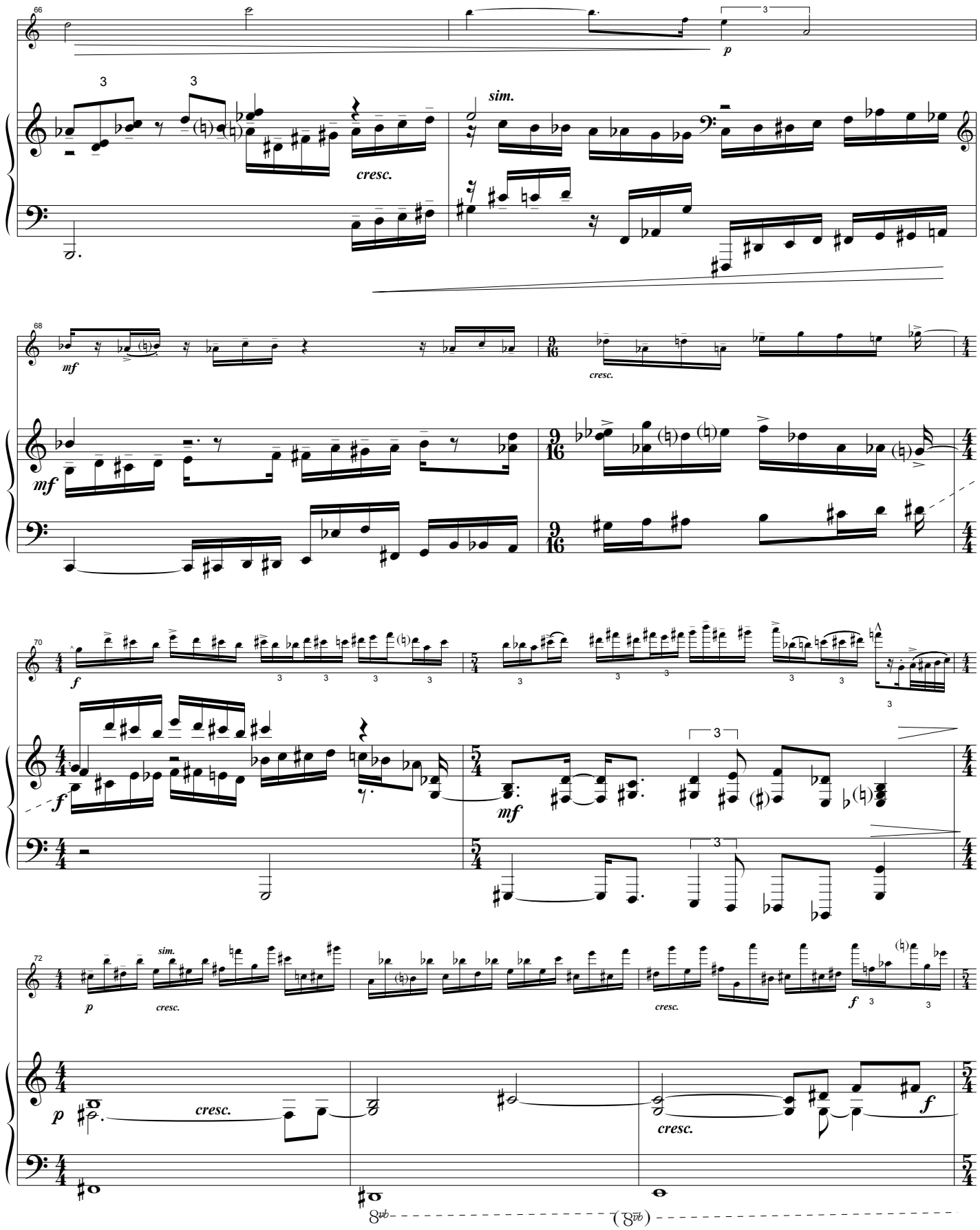

17
cresc.
mf
19
21
sim.
f
fp
24
mp
cresc.
mf

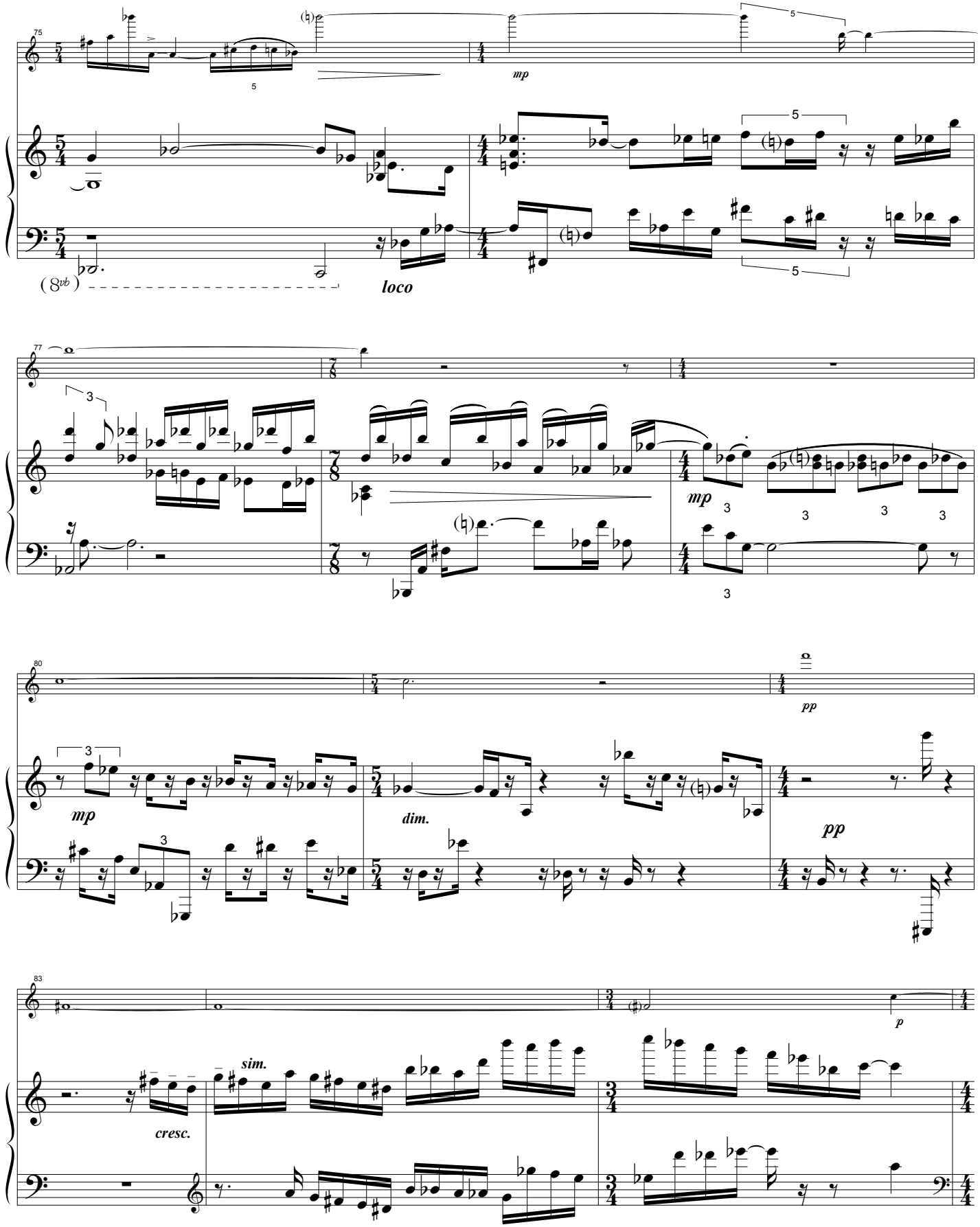

26
f
p
f
f
mp
cresc.
f
mp
cresc.
28
f
rit.
pp
a little slower
loco
L.H.
f
p
8va
pp
8vb
loco
31
pp
f
p
pizz.
ord.
Tempo I
mp
mf
p
mf
pp
cresc.

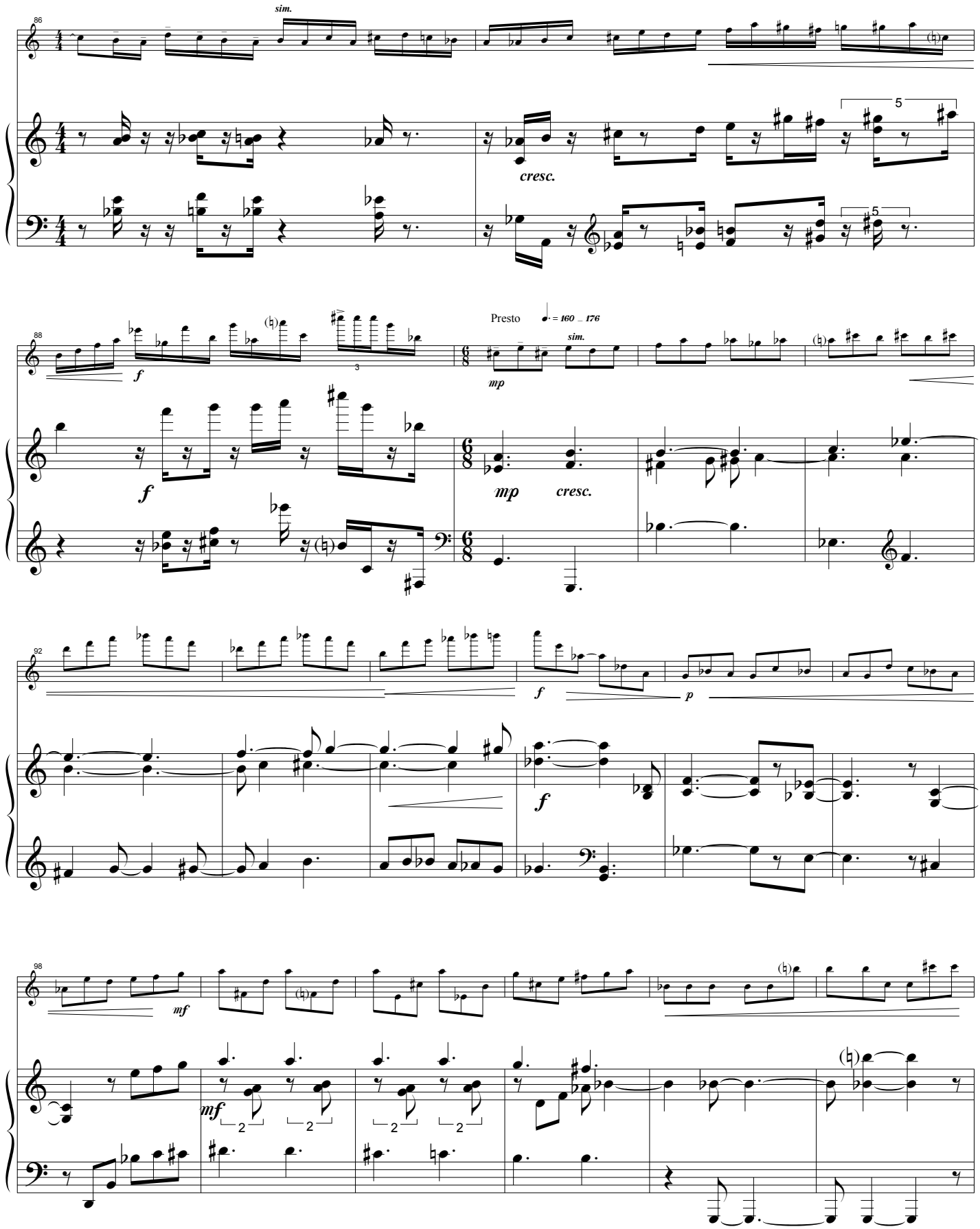

36
39
41
43
f
mp
tr
mp cresc.

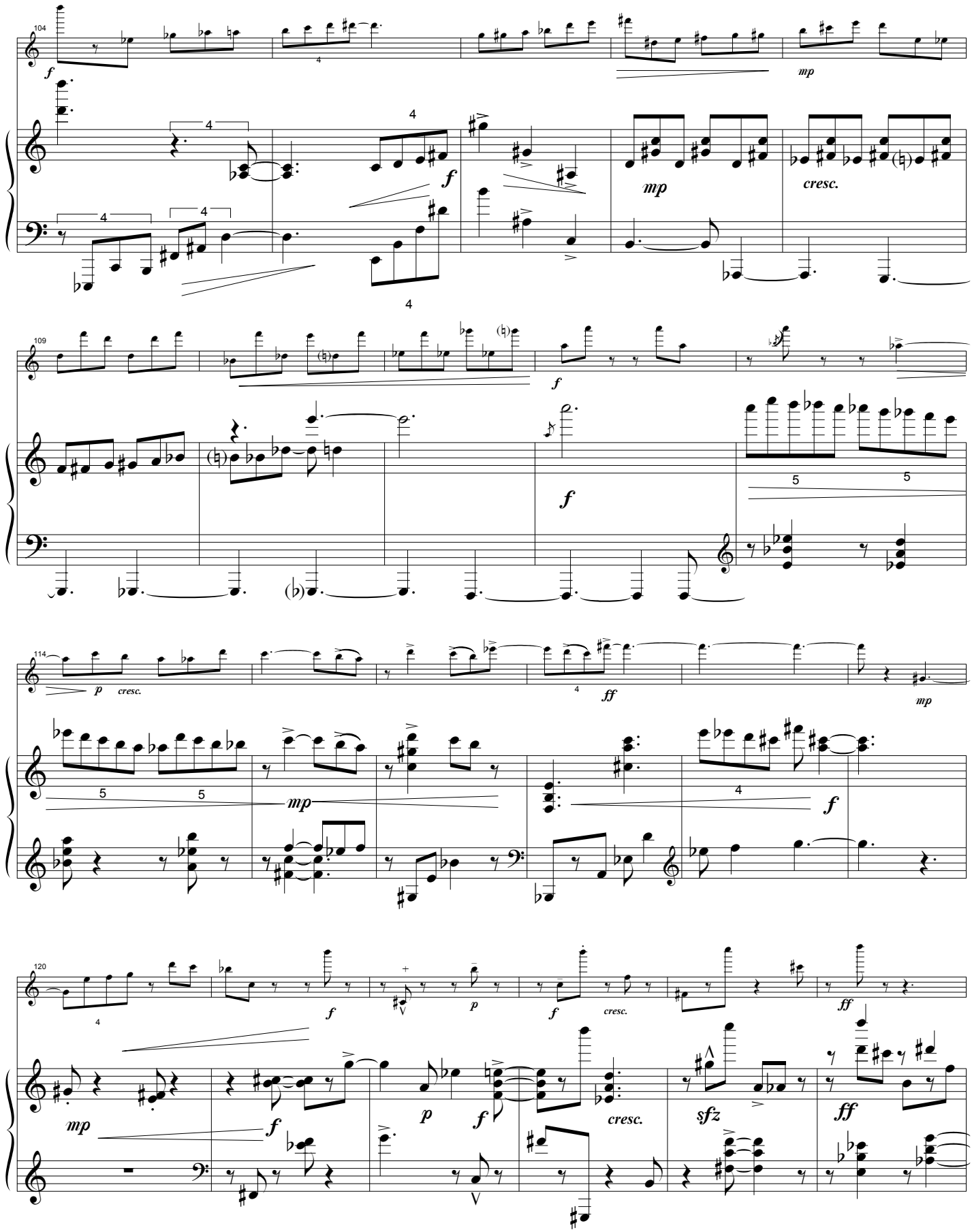

light, dance-like
(cresc.)
p sub.
cresc.
mf
with momentum

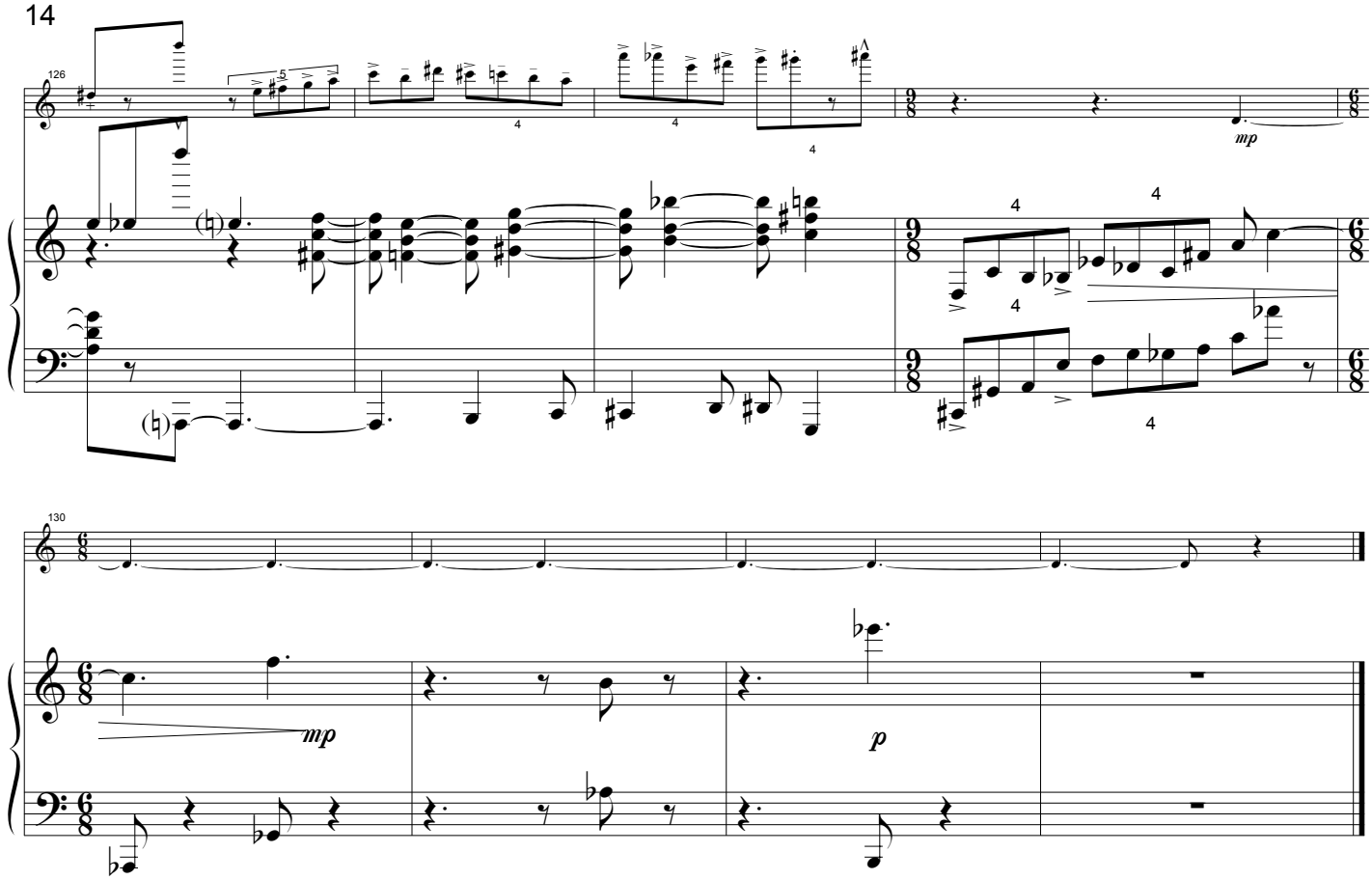

54
cantabile
p
mp
piano still agitated
56
mf
58
p
61
p
mp
p
mf
cantabile (joining with flute)


66
sim.
cresc.
68
mf
cresc.
70
f
mf
72
sim.
p
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
f
8vb
(8vb)


mp
loco
mp
dim.
pp
pp
sim.
cresc.
p


86
sim.
cresc.
5
88
f
Presto
♩. = 160 _ 176
sim.
mp
cresc.
92
f
p
98
mf
2


104
f
mp
cresc.
109
f
114
p
cresc.
ff
mp
120
f
p
cresc.
sfz
ff


126
mp
4
4
4
4
4
4

130
mp
p